

03500.015501



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HIROYUKI KIMURA ET AL. ) : Examiner: A. Azad  
Appln. No.: 09/891,389 ) : Group Art Unit: 2654  
Filed: June 27, 2001 ) : Allowed: December 5, 2005  
For: VOICE SYNTHESIZING APPARATUS, ) : Confirmation No.: 4403  
VOICE SYNTHESIZING SYSTEM, VOICE ) :  
SYNTHESIZING METHOD AND )  
STORAGE MEDIUM : February 10, 2006

Attn: Docket Clerk: Code **REAS**  
**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability mailed December 5, 2005 included, as an attachment, a statement of reasons for allowance.

In that regard, it is noted that the statement of reasons for allowance cites two different recitations, but does not indicate which of the independent claims recite which of the two recitations. Applicants wish to clarify for the record that the recitation "makes the volume of one synthetic speech waveform  $a/(a+b)$  and makes the volume of the other synthetic speech waveform  $b/(a+b)$ " is contained in independent Claims 1, 19, 30, 34, 38 and 42 (and not in

independent Claims 132-137), and the recitation “makes the volume of each output synthetic speech waveform a value obtained by dividing the value of an importance parameter of the importance of the synthetic speech waveform by the sum total of the values of importance parameters of all the synthetic speech waveforms outputted in overlapping relation with one another” is contained in independent Claims 132-137 (and not in independent Claims 1, 19, 30, 34, 38 and 42). Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is allowable for its combination of claimed features.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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